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Remarks:

Regarding the rejection of claims 1, 3-5, 7-8, 13-18 under 35 USC 103(a) in view of US 2002/0142931 to DeNome (hereinafter DeNome '931):

The applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of the foregoing claims in view of the DeNome'931 reference.

In view of the applicant's currently presented amendments to the claims, and in particular the incorporation of the limitations of prior claim 2 into claim 1, it is believed that such amendments overcomes the Examiner's grounds of rejection and renders the rejection moot.

Regarding the rejection of claims 9-12, 19 and 20 under 35 USC 103(a) in view of US 2002/0142931 to DeNome (hereinafter DeNome '931) further in view of US 5958858 to Bettiol (hereinafter simply "Bettiol"):

The applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of the foregoing claims in view of the combined DeNome'931 and Bettiol references.

In view of the applicant's incorporation of the subject matter of prior claim 2, now canceled as well as prior claim 9 and part of claim 11 into claim 1, and further in view of the fact that the Examiner had not lodged a rejection of claim 2 in view of the combined DeNome'931 and Bettiol references, presently presented claims 9-12, 19 and 20 are believed to be allowable over the prior art of record. Thus, the Examiner's grounds of rejection is believed to be fully addressed and overcome which is believed to render the current rejection as moot.

Regarding the rejection of claims 1-5, 7-8, 15-18 and 21 in view of US 2004/0063601 to Denome (hereinafter Denome '601):

In view of the applicant's incorporation of the subject matter of prior claim 9 and part of claim 11 into claim 1, and further in view of the fact that the Examiner had not lodged a

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rejection of claim 2 in view of the combined DeNome'931 and Bettiol references, presently presented claims 9-12, 19 and 20 are believed to be allowable over the prior art of record. Thus, the Examiner's grounds of rejection is believed to be fully addressed and overcome which is believed to render the current rejection as moot.

Regarding the rejection of claims 9-12, 19 and 20 under 35 USC 103(a) in view of US 2004/0063601 to Denome (hereinafter Denome'601) further in view of US 5958858 to Bettiol (hereinafter simply "Bettiol"):

In view of the applicant's incorporation of the subject matter of prior claim 9 and part of claim 11 into claim 1, and further in view of the fact that the Examiner had not lodged a rejection of claim 2 in view of the combined DeNome'601 and Bettiol references, presently presented claims 9-12, 19 and 20 are believed to be allowable over the prior art of record. Thus, the Examiner's grounds of rejection is believed to be fully addressed and overcome which is believed to render the current rejection as moot.

Regarding the rejection of claims 13-14 under 35 USC 103(a) in view of US 2004/0063601 to Denome (hereinafter Denome'601) further in view of US 2002/0142931 to DeNome (hereinafter DeNome'931):

In view of the applicant's amendments to claim 1, namely the incorporation of the subject matter of both prior claims 2 and 9, now canceled, it is believed that such amendments to claim 1 from which claims 13 and 14 depend are believed to render the latter claims as allowable over the prior art of record. Accordingly it is believed that the Examiner's grounds of rejection are thereby fully addressed and overcome which is further believed to render the current rejection as moot.

Regarding the rejection of claim 21 under 35 USC 103(a) in view of US 6037319 to Dickler:

In this paper the applicant cancels claim 21, which is believed to render the current grounds of rejection as moot.

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Should the Examiner in charge of this application believe that telephonic communication with the undersigned representative would meaningfully advance the prosecution of this application towards allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at their earliest convenience.

Petition for a Two-Month Extension of Time

The applicant respectfully petitions for a two-month extension of time in order to permit for the timely entry of this response. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263 with respect to this Petition.

Conditional Authorization for Fees

Should any further fee be required by the Commissioner in order to permit the timely entry of this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any such fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

Respectfully Submitted;


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02 June 2008
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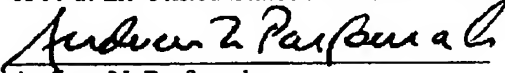
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CERTIFICATE OF TELEFAX TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I certify that this document, and any attachments thereto, addressed to the: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" is being telefax transmitted to (571) 273-8300 at the United States Patent and Trademark Office.


Andrew N. Parfomak

02 June 2008
Date

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